

Washington, D.C. - Today, Congressman Costa responded to the initial list of this year's round of base closures.

Both Lemoore Naval Air Station and the 144th Fighter Wing received a net gain according to the Department of Defense recommendations for base closures and realignments.

“I would like to thank Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and the Base Realignment and Closure Commission for understanding the crucial role that Lemoore and the 144th currently play in maintaining America's security both home and abroad, and for recognizing the important role they will play in the future,” stated Costa.

Over the last several months, Congressman Costa has contacted the Secretary of Defense and President Bush several times regarding the important work that Lemoore Naval Air Station and the 144th do for the Central Valley and the protection the bases provide for the West Coast.

“In addition to Lemoore and the 144th protecting our homeland security, these bases also provide secondary benefits to the local economy. Both of these bases receiving a net gain this is great news for the Central Valley,” Costa concluded.

Congressman Costa is available for comment. Please call the numbers below to set up an interview.

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